

It's Goole Town away

GOOLE Town away — that's the task facing Wycombe Wanderers in the second round of the F.A. Trophy on February 4.

So once again the Blues have missed out on a home draw. In fact they have never played a Trophy game at Loakes Park in their four years in the competition.

At first glance Wanderers seem to have their hands full with Goole, who are members of the Northern Premier League which has supplied seven of the eight Trophy winners since its inception in 1970.

Goole are currently placed 13th from the 24 clubs with a record of P25, W9, D

5, L11, F38, A37 for 23 points. They came into the Trophy in the third qualifying round, beating Cheshire League side New Brighton 2-0 away from home. On Saturday they put out Northern Leaguers Tow Law 3-1.

All three goals came from their formidable striking pair of Charlie Green and Mal Thompson who between them have bagged 44 goals this season. Green, with 25, is top marksman in the Northern Premier League.

Apart from these two, Town's star man is midfield player Tony Galvin, brother of Hull City's Chris. Only this week Goole were offered a five figure sum for his services by Tottenham

Hotspur. The club is considering the offer.

But there was disappointment for Goole in the F.A. Cup this season. They battled through from the first qualifying round beating N.P.L. rivals and former Trophy winners Matlock Town 2-1 at home before going out in the first round 3-1 at Spennymoor.

The Matlock result went some way to avenging a 1-0 defeat in the quarter-final of the Trophy two years ago — Goole's best performance in the competition.

Goole are expecting a good crowd for the Wycombe game. They average between 800-900 for league matches and facilities at their Victoria Pleasure

Ground are reputed to be good. Certainly, the club are proud of their pitch which is regarded as one of the best surfaces in the league.

Wycombe have a small link with Goole as one of their former players, Ian Pearson, played for them before going professional with Plymouth. No doubt Wanderers will be in contact with Ian — but Goole have the same idea. Their manager, Alan Turner, said: "I don't know much about Wycombe but I'll be getting in touch with Ian Pearson for some information and I hope he might even watch them for us. I imagine they are a fairly useful side. We've heard a lot about these Southern teams and we are

certainly looking forward to playing them."

Reaction from the Wanderers end was less enthusiastic. Manager John Reardon said: "This is bound to be a tough one for us but at this stage of the competition no game is easy. I feel sorry for the fans who have to travel again but if we get the same support that we had at Bridgend, I'm sure the boys will give a good account of themselves."

Wycombe's committee will meet this week to discuss possible travelling arrangements and another train trip seems likely after the success at Bridgend on Saturday. Goole is on the River Humber, 21 miles from Doncaster.